2. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising switching off a receiving portion of the first transmitter/receiver unit after termination of the second time interval during a rest phase which extends until a next triggering signal.

3. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 or claim 2, wherein the second time interval is shorter than the first time interval.

4. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the triggering signal includes a first data set to be transmitted.

5. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising manually causing an emission of the triggering signal by a wearer of the implant.

6. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising, in response to a transmission of data by the first transmitter/receiver unit, the second transmitter/receiver unit sending a first acknowledgment to the first transmitter/receiver unit, the first acknowledgment including at least one first item of control information for controlling the reception readiness of the first transmitter/receiver unit.

7. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 6, wherein the first acknowledgment includes a second data set to be transmitted.

8. (twice amended) The method as set forth in Claim 1, further comprising implementing by the external apparatus a first plausibility check in respect of data transmitted by the first transmitter/receiver unit and in dependence on the plausibility of the data transmitted

the first acknowledgment including a second item of control information for control of the first transmitter/receiver unit, wherein in the event of lack of plausibility of the data transmitted the second item of control information includes a first control signal for triggering a renewed transmission of data by the first transmitter/receiver unit.

9. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 8, further comprising, the first transmitter/receiver unit in response to the first control signal implementing a renewed transmission of data only if a number of renewed transmissions, which is sufficiently low to avoid overloading of a power supply of the implant is not exceeded.

10. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 8 or claim 9, further comprising for checking transmission of data by the implant in the case of plausibility of the data transmitted the second transmitter/receiver unit sending at least a part of the data transmitted to the first transmitter/receiver unit.

11. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 10, further comprising after checking transmission of the data by way of the first transmitter/receiver unit the implant sending a second acknowledgment to the second transmitter/receiver unit, wherein when successful transmission of the data is established the second acknowledgment includes a first signature representing validity of transmission and the implant closing down at least the reception readiness of the first transmitter/receiver unit.

12. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 11, further comprising the external apparatus implementing a second plausibility check in respect of the second acknowledgment and when lack of plausibility of the second acknowledgment is established after expiry

of a further time interval after dispatch of the second acknowledgment implementing an interrogation of the implant, and after the expiry of the further time interval the implant assuming reception and transmission readiness of the first transmitter/receiver unit for a renewed further time interval which is sufficient to receive and answer an inquiry from the external apparatus, and effecting an answer to the inquiry by renewed sending of the second acknowledgment and/or the data which were sent last.

13. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising when defective transmission of data is established, effecting a renewed transmission of data by the first transmitter/receiver unit if a number of renewed transmissions, which is sufficiently low to avoid overloading of an energy supply of the implant, is not exceeded.

14. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising effecting renewed transmission after expiry of a waiting time interval, wherein in the case of multiple renewed transmission the length of the waiting time interval increases.

15. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising after renewed transmission of data by the first transmitter/receiver unit executing again the method steps beginning with a plausibility check.

16. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the second transmitter/receiver unit is substantially permanently ready to receive in an initial condition up to a first data exchange with the implant and at least during the first data exchange reduces the transmission or reception readiness of the second transmitter/receiver unit to a periodic transmission or reception

readiness interval, wherein the second transmitter/receiver unit is synchronized with the first transmitter/receiver unit in such a way that the transmission or reception readiness intervals of the first transmitter/receiver unit and second transmitter/receiver unit overlap.

17. (amended) The method as set forth in claim 16, further comprising upon nonreceipt of transmissions of the first transmitter/receiver unit at the second transmitter/receiver unit over a predetermined number of transmission or reception readiness intervals of the second transmitter/receiver unit prolonging transmission or reception readiness interval of the second transmitter/receiver unit to catch a divergence drift of synchronicity.

18. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least the first time interval is variable during operation by sending a second item of control information by the second transmitter/receiver unit to the first transmitter/receiver unit which is ready to receive.

19. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the first time interval is varied in dependence on operating parameters of the implant.

20. (twice amended) The method as set forth in claim 1, further comprising when appropriate operating parameters of the implant apply, the first transmitter/receiver unit emits an emergency triggering signal to the second transmitter/receiver unit for triggering an alarm signal.